

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

REP

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COUNTRY East Germany
SUBJECT VEB Eisenwerk West, Calbe/Saale

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VEB Eisenwerk West at Calbe on the Saale River charges its low-shaft blast furnaces (Niederschadthofen) with ore from the GDR, mostly iron ore of a type resembling the Salzgitter ore. A new ore deposit located near Osterwieke between Magdeburg and Helmstedt, is being opened up. The lodes are said to be geologically younger than the Dörger ore and presumably belong to Lias formations. The major part of these deposits are expected to be found at depths of between 200 and 300 meters. Processing of this ore in low-shaft blast furnaces revealed that a high percentage of energy was consumed by endothermic side reactions which affected the difficult operation of a low-type blast furnace. Attempts will be made to have side reactions take place in special installations, or to enrich the normal ore of a 25-percent iron content either by wet-mill concentration, by electromagnetic concentration using magnetic roasting, or by purely thermic procedure.

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